



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BLM news

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

BURNS DISTRICT 28910 HWY 20 WEST HINES, OR 97738 (541) 573-4400 www.or.blm.gov/burns/

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOMINATIONS FOR VACANT STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL POSITION SOUGHT

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District is seeking nominations for a dispersed recreation representative to serve on the Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC). This representative should be a person who frequently participates in activities such as hiking, camping, nature viewing, nature photography, bird watching, horseback riding, and/or trail walking.

To nominate yourself or another party, you must submit a nomination form and letters of reference to the Burns District Office, BLM, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738 by October 15, 2003. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Burns District Office by calling (541) 573-4400 or by visiting the Steens Mountain Web site at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Steens> and click on 'Advisory Council.' Following the closure of the nomination period, the BLM will forward a recommended nomination to the Secretary of the Interior, who will make the final appointment.

Members of the SMAC are usually appointed for 3-year terms, however, since the previous dispersed recreation representative resigned, the newly-appointed member will only be appointed to complete the existing 3-year term. This appointment will begin upon selection and will expire in August 2005.

The SMAC, established by the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act (Act) of 2000, P.L. 106-399, has been charged with formulating recommendations to the BLM regarding: 1) new and unique approaches to the management of land within the boundaries of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA); and 2) cooperative programs and incentives for

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landscape management that meet human needs and maintain and improve the ecological and economic integrity of the CMPA.

The Act is the culmination of a cooperative effort between Oregon's Congressional delegation, Governor Kitzhaber, and the Department of the Interior to forge legislation providing long-term protection for the cultural, economic, ecological, and social health of the Steens Mountain Area. This unique Act creates several new management designations on Federal land on and around the Steens Mountain. The CMPA encompasses 428,153 acres of public land in Harney County, Oregon, including a No Livestock Grazing Area of 97,229 acres within the 170,024-acre Steens Mountain Wilderness Area.

Members currently serving on the SMAC are:

Richard Benner (No CMPA-financial interest)
Stacy Davies (Grazing Permittee)
Alice Elshoff (Environmental Representative- Local)
E. Ron Harding (Wild Horse Management)
Thomas Harris, Chair (Mechanized or Consumptive Recreation)
Wanda Johnson (Burns Paiute Tribe)
Jason Miner (Fish and Recreational Fishing)
Steve Purchase (State Government Liaison (nonvoting member))
Jerry Sutherland, Vice Chair (Environmental Representative- State)
Vacant (Dispersed Recreation)
Hoyt Wilson (Grazing Permittee)
Cindy Witzel (Recreational Permit Holder)
Harland Yriarte (Private Landowner)

For more information on the vacant SMAC position, please contact Rhonda Karges at the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4433.

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